

care, and 20 percent of them are children.

I believe that we must work creatively to build on the best of what works in the current system while fostering competition among private plans and providing patients with quality choices.

We can and we must ensure that all Americans have affordable and quality health care. And I urge all of my colleagues to work together towards this goal.

CONGRATULATING THE LADY EAGLES

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Lady Eagles from the Bald Eagle Area School District in Pennsylvania for winning the state championship softball title on Friday, June 12. It was the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association's Class AA title game against the Brandywine Heights Area School District, and both are outstanding teams.

Led by pitcher Megan Shaw, the Lady Eagles won by a score of 2-0 against the Lady Bullets in a match where the Bullets had a better record with 27 wins and no losses. The Eagles' record was 23 wins and 3 losses.

This is a story about heart and determination after the Lady Eagles lost last year in the state finals. They have won 2 years out of 4 and are fierce competitors. Scoring runs were by Brooke Klinefelter and Taylor Parsons, with help from two other hitters, Lily Glunt and Jasa Mitchell; one bunted, and the second gave a base hit to bring in Parsons.

Coach Dave Breon can be justifiably proud of these high school girls and the hard work that got them to the finals and made them state champions. Great job, Lady Eagles.

YET ANOTHER TAX ON THE PEOPLE

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, with the banner cry, "they never found a tax they didn't like," the taxacrats want to tax energy consumption.

Here's the plan: Tax American energy and use the tax to pay for the national health care program. In fact, Duke Energy has already asked for a 13.5 percent rate increase on its customers to pay for this new oppressive tax. You see, taxes on American energy companies will be passed on to the rest of us. And so it begins.

Families and businesses are already struggling during these new times of change. The stimulus bill has only made things worse. So the government is going to automatically raise the cost

of everything that comes from energy, which is almost everything. And the consumer pays, while our small manufacturing companies go out of business because of these new energy taxes. And now we learn the new energy tax plan, which was supposed to save planet Earth, will have little or no effect on the climate. Bummer.

So why punish American energy companies that pass the pain on to citizens? Here's the reason: The government economic philosophy of 2009 is: if something moves, regulate it; if it keeps moving, tax it; and if it stops moving, nationalize it.

And that's just the way it is.

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BRINGING ATTENTION TO NORTH KOREAN PRISONERS EUNA LEE AND LAURA LING

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to continue to bring attention to Ms. Ling and Ms. Lee, who are being held today by North Korea. I realize that we have had over the years Six-Party Talks and that engagement is important.

I am not advocating war. I am advocating a resolution to the holding of two innocent Americans, one a mother, both renowned journalists, both loved by their family members. I believe it is important for North Korea to be part of the world community and imagine the concerns that would be expressed by anyone holding a North Korean.

I look forward to working as a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee with the administration for the best approach and ongoing continuing discussions, discussing nuclear non-proliferation, along with the release of these two hostages. But we must make a statement and act to have the release of Ms. Ling and Ms. Lee, and we must do it now.

A RESPONSIBLE CENTRIST HEALTH BILL

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, centrists in the House have put forward a health care reform bill that defends your relationship with your doctor, lowers the cost of insurance, and extends coverage to Americans who don't have it. It is a better bill than the Senate bill, which has \$1 trillion in cost.

CBO says that bill will cover 31 million Americans, but another 15 million will lose coverage under the legislation, giving a net of just 16 million Americans getting coverage. At a cost of \$1 trillion, that means it costs \$62,500 per patient over 10 years.

Our centrist plan covers more people at much less cost while finally guaranteeing the rights of your medical treatment against any government restriction.

This House is suffering trillion-dollar sticker shock from the Senate bill. Our centrist health care reform bill is more responsible and will not break the Treasury.

YOUNG ADULT HEALTHCARE COVERAGE ACT OF 2009

(Mrs. DAHLKEMPER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of my first piece of legislation, the Young Adult Healthcare Coverage Act of 2009, or, as I like to call it, the young invincibles bill. I am the mother of five young invincibles, and this legislation will cover adults ages 19-29.

This bipartisan, no-cost bill provides these young adults with the option to access their parents' health insurance. This is important, because young adults have the highest uninsured rate of any group in the country at 31 percent.

The result is extreme measures, such as borrowing leftover prescription drugs from a friend, setting their own broken bones, or trips to the emergency room that cost the American taxpayer millions. Thirty States have already enacted similar legislation. This bill will create a nationwide uniform standard.

I thank Congressman LEONARD LANCE and others who are cosponsoring this bill, and I ask our colleagues to join us.

A BETTER SOLUTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION

(Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, by 2035, the Heritage Foundation estimates that Chairman WAXMAN's legislation will cause a 90 percent increase in electricity rates and a 55 percent rise in residential natural gas prices. Experts predict that this will result in substantial numbers of United States jobs going to countries like China and India that have not adopted a national energy tax.

At a time when the national unemployment rate is soaring, approaching 10 percent in the next several months, and the Kentucky unemployment rate is getting dangerously high, we can't afford to enact this legislation that will create additional hardships.

Energy prices are a major factor in determining the cost of living and the cost of doing business in a particular location. The fact is that Kentucky is one of the lowest energy cost States in the Nation and depends on electricity produced from coal.

I recently met with plant managers and business leaders in Carroll County, Kentucky, who reiterated that the low cost of energy in the Commonwealth was a major reason they chose to base their businesses in the county, creating many jobs.